



City of Middletown Newsletter

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September 2012

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Arts & Culture

The final performance of the 2012 Summer Sounds series takes place on Tuesday, Sept. 4 with the Middletown Symphonic Band performing on the South Green. It is a busy September and October is always busy with the arts and humanities during National Arts & Humanities month. Be sure to check out the latest on arts2go.org. If you'd like a



traditional Arts Calendar contact the Arts Office at 860.343.6620 x202 or arts@middletownct.gov and request it.

September 17th is the deadline for Category 2 and 3 grant applications for projects serving Middletown in the arts taking place on or after December 1, 2012. All the details can be found at arts2go.org under "resources" then "grants" or go to cityofmiddletown.com/arts and then

MCA Grant Forms. Category 2 limits are from \$1,501 to \$8,000 and Category 3 is up to \$1,000. Any questions not answered in the material on the website can be directed to Arts & Culture Coordinator, Stephan Allison using the contact information in the preceding paragraph.

The seasonal Gallery Walk that takes place in an area that the participants are calling the Arts District of downtown Middletown (north side of Washington St. to the Arrigoni Bridge) continues on the 3rd Wednesday of Sept. and Oct. There are 8 galleries open for the Walk so pick up a map and take the stroll between 5 and 8 p.m. You'll find it worthwhile and there are participating restaurants offering incentives. Look for more information (<http://www.facebook.com/MiddletownNorthEndGalleryWalk>).

Central Communications Department

The Central Communication Center processed over 2,200 emergency 911 calls in July. In addition to emergency telephone calls almost 7,000 non-emergency calls were answered. The 911 calls produced over 4,200 incidents for Police and Fire to respond to in Middletown and Portland.

Health Department

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by viruses that can cause mild to severe illness and, at times, lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated every year. The upcoming season's flu vaccine will protect against three influenzas, influenza A (H1N1) virus, influenza A (H3N2) virus, and influenza B Virus.

The first in a series of seasonal flu clinics sponsored by Mass Dispensing Area 36 (the towns of Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield and Middletown Health Departments) is scheduled for: September 19th from Noon – 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Residency is not required but participants must be at least 4 years old and in good health. Medi-

care and private insurance will be accepted (co-payment) will not be required. Participants should bring their insurance card. Those without insurance may be eligible to receive a flu shot at no charge. The vaccine will be administered by injection only (flu mist will not be available). The supply of vaccine is limited and will be given on a first-come-first-served basis.

For additional seasonal flu clinics call: 860.632.3426 (Cromwell), 860.349.8253 (Durham), 860.349.7123 (Middlefield), or 860.344.3474 (Middletown). Participants are encouraged to save time by completing their registration form online at www.middletownct.gov, www.townofdurham.com, www.middlefieldct.org, www.townofcromwellct.com

On October 5, 2012, from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. there will be a Healthy Living Expo at the Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church, 440 West Street. Flu clinic will run from 9:30 a.m.— 7:00 p.m. Please bring your insurance card.

Parking Department

Effective Monday July 30th parking personnel have been using new handheld, digital parking ticket machines that also allow the city to accept on-line and automated payments. Previously, tickets had to be paid at City Hall or by mail. The new system makes it more convenient for people to pay their violations, but also makes it significantly more efficient for the City to handle parking tickets. The contract also includes a collection system to bring in revenue from tickets that are outstanding, and will make it possible for the City to offer online renewal of parking permits soon. Online ticket payments will carry a \$3.50 processing fee, so a \$10 parking ticket would cost \$13.50 to pay online. Although there is an online fee, more people will be able to pay their tickets before they become overdue.

Tickets unpaid after 14 days double in cost. This allows you to stay on top of it. Instructions for parking ticket payments are printed on the back of violation notices.

Parks /Recreation

All parks are opened through Nov. 30th. Please view us on line at MiddletownCT.gov under Parks and Recreation for daily updates. The Department encourages the citizens of Middletown to view our fall Brochure for a complete listing of all of our programs, parks and fields, Bus Trips and other updates at MiddletownCT.gov under Parks and Recreation.

Police Department

The Middletown Police Department is growing and changing, on May 9, 2012 Mayor Daniel Drew swore in Chief William McKenna as Middletown's newest police chief. Shortly after Lieutenant John Lozefski was promoted to captain, and just recently one existing and



two new sergeant positions were filled by Officers Vincent Mazzotta, Jorge Yepes and Brian White. Three new officers have graduated from P.O.S.T. and will be starting their field training.

Congratulations to Middletown Police Officer recruit, Kevin Cyr, who was the recipient of the "TFC Allan Tuskowski Award For Excellence In Training" award as Top Recruit for the 335th POST training session. Kevin graduated the academy and is currently assigned to the Patrol Division.

We are currently in the process of hiring new officers to bring our staffing

levels from 104 sworn officers to 111 sworn officers.

Congratulations to Officer Michael D'Aresta who competed in the Connecticut K-9 Olympics with his dog Hunter. They place seventh overall competing against K-9 units from all over the state.

Public Works

The City of Middletown Public Works Department is able to offer a small quantity of Rain Barrels for sale now for \$50.00 each. Rain Barrels are available at City Hall in the Public Works office during normal working hours, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Payment accepted by cash or check. Available only while supplies last.

The Public Works Department will also be hosting a community sale of Garden Gourmet compost bins and Green Cone Food Digesters Sept. 20 – Oct. 15th. Distribution will be held Saturday, Oct. 20th. Compost bins will be \$57 each.

To learn more about how to set up and manage a home compost system with minimal effort join Master Composter Intern & Middletown resident, Jennifer Weymouth, for a composting discussion at the Russell Library. Jennifer will be discussing the differences between active and passive composting, demonstrating different types of composters, and answering questions at the Russell Library on September 27th at 7p.m. Contact the City Recycling Coordinator at 860-344-526 or kim.orourke@MiddletownCT.Gov for more information on any of these programs.

Russell Library

Thursday, Oct. 11 Wesleyan U Film Studies: *The Concert* (Russian) 2009 Dir. Radu Mihaileanu, Thursday Oct. 18 Russell Library: *Seraphine* (French) 2008 dir. Martin Provost, Thursday, Oct. 25 Russell Library: *My Voice (Nha Fala)* (Portuguese) 2002 Dir. Flora Gomes, Thursday Nov. 1 Wesleyan U Film Studies: *Poetry* (Korean) 2010 dir. Chang-dong Lee, Thursday, Nov. 8 Wesleyan U

Film Studies: *Dancing Dreams* (German) 2010 Dir. Rainer Hoffman, Thursday, Nov. 15 Russell Library: *As It Is In Heaven* (Swedish) 2004 Dir. Kay Pollak.

Senior Center

Call the Senior Center at 860-344-3513, 150 William St to have our Senior News mailed to your residence. Civitan Bingo meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. On September 14th there will be a cook out at the Senior Center, the cost is \$3.00 per person.

Forth coming seminars at the Center are on September 5th there will be a nurse practitioner and on September 19th the Godfrey Library regarding genealogy. The Senior Center Specialist is available for ADA and Municipal Agent concerns.

Tax Assessor

All persons having taxable personal property to declare such as: unregistered motor vehicles, horses and ponies, farm equipment, or any furniture, fixtures, and equipment used in the operation of a business, must do so by November 1, 2012. Declaration forms are available at the Assessor's Office; however, they will also be mailed to all businesses and residents who have declared property in the past. As per §12-41 declarants filing a late or incomplete form will incur a 25% penalty. Please be aware if you have taxable personal property, and do not declare it, state statutes allow the assessor to add it at an estimated amount, plus a 25% penalty.

Applications for Farm, Forest and Open Space will be accepted from September 1st until October 31, 2012. Forms are available at the Assessor's Office, or online at the town website.

Any persons who acquired a new motor vehicle after October 1, 2011 will receive a supplemental motor vehicle bill for their new vehicle by January 2013. These bills will be prorated, based on the date of registration, for the 12-month period starting October 2011 and ending September 2012. Vehicles acquired in August or September do not receive supplemental tax bills.

New Veterans seeking exemption must

record their honorable discharge papers with the Town Clerk by October 1st. Active-duty military who have served 90 days or more may also be eligible for an exemption, and are encouraged to contact the Assessor's Office prior to October 1st for more details.

Call the Assessor's Office at 860-344-3454, if you have any questions.

Town Clerk Office

This year's Presidential Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Any voter who will be unable to vote at their respective polling places between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. are allowed to vote by absentee ballot, if the reason is qualified by State Law. Those reasons are: active service in the Armed Forces of the U.S., absence from town during all hours of voting, illness, religious tenets, duties as an elections official at the polling place, or physical disability. If you feel you qualify for an absentee ballot, please contact our office during regular business hours, and we will be happy to accommodate you!

Keep in mind that dog licensing month has past by (it was June), but you are still required by state law to have your dog licensed. New owners that have never had a license must license their dogs. All dogs from 6 months of age must obtain a license. The fee for a newly licensed dog is \$8 for neutered/spayed or \$19 for unneutered/un-spayed. If you had a license for the 2011-2012 licensing year and have not yet renewed your license, do so quickly! The Animal Control Officer obtains regular lists of licensed and unlicensed dogs in Middletown!

For more information, contact us at (860) 344-3459 or www.middletownCT.gov go to Departments click on Town Clerk Office